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Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Thematic cluster II: sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels, and other entities and mechanisms

Panel of Experts on Mali

Report of the Secretary-General*

Summary

The present report contains the proposed resource requirements for the Panel of Experts on Mali, amounting to $1,297,200 (net of staff assessment) for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2018.

* *The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council* resolution 2374 (2017).

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Panel of Experts on Mali

($1,296,600)

Background, mandate and objective

1. On 5 September 2017, the Security Council, by its resolution 2374 (2017), established a sanctions regime in relation to the situation in Mali. By the same resolution, the Council imposed a travel ban and an assets freeze and established a Sanctions Committee and a Panel of Experts.

2. In paragraph 9 of resolution 2374 (2017), the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to make the necessary financial arrangements to enable the Sanctions Committee to undertake the following tasks:

(a) To monitor implementation of the travel ban and assets freeze;

(b) To designate those individuals and entities subject to the assets freeze, to review information regarding those individuals and to consider requests for exemptions;

(c) To designate those individuals subject to the travel ban, to review information regarding those individuals and to consider requests for exemptions;

(d) To establish such guidelines as may be necessary to facilitate the implementation of the measures imposed by the resolution;

(e) To encourage a dialogue between the Committee and interested Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations, in particular those in the region, including by inviting representatives of such States or organizations to meet with the Committee to discuss implementation of the measures;

(f) To seek from all States and international, regional and subregional organizations whatever information it may consider useful regarding the actions taken by them to implement effectively the measures imposed by the resolution;

(g) To examine and take appropriate action on information regarding alleged violations or non-compliance with the measures contained in the resolution.

3. In paragraph 11 of the same resolution, the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to create, for an initial period of 13 months, in consultation with the Committee, a group of up to five experts ("Panel of Experts") and to make the necessary financial and security arrangements to support the work of the Panel. The Panel, under the direction of the Committee, would carry out the following tasks:

(a) Assist the Committee in carrying out its mandate, including through providing the Committee with information relevant to the potential designation of individuals and entities who may be engaging in, directly or indirectly, actions or policies that threaten the peace, security or stability of Mali described in the resolution;

(b) Gather, examine and analyse information from States, relevant United Nations bodies, regional organizations and other interested parties regarding the implementation of the measures decided in the resolution, in particular incidents of non-compliance;

(c) Provide to the Council, after discussion with the Committee, an interim update by 1 March 2018, a final report by 1 September 2018 and periodic updates in between;

(d) Assist the Committee in refining and updating information on the list of individuals subject to the travel ban and assets freeze, including through the

provision of biometric information and additional information for the publicly available narrative summary of reasons for listing;

(e) Cooperate closely with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), as appropriate.

Cooperation with other entities

4. The Panel of Experts is expected to cooperate closely with INTERPOL and UNODC. In carrying out its mandate, the Panel is also expected to cooperate with other relevant expert groups established by the Security Council to support the work of its sanctions committees, including the Panel of Experts established by resolution 1973 (2011) concerning Libya and the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team pursuant to resolutions 1526 (2004) and 2368 (2017) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities. Furthermore, the Panel of Experts on Mali is expected to seek the cooperation of Member States and of international, regional and subregional organizations. In addition, the Council encouraged timely exchange between the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali and the Panel.

5. The Department of Political Affairs is responsible for providing support to the Sanctions Committee and the Panel of Experts. The Department of Safety and Security provides advice on safety and security issues.

Planning assumptions for 2018

6. It is anticipated that the Panel, which will be home-based, will collect information relevant to the potential designation by the Sanctions Committee of individuals and entities who may be engaging in actions or policies that threaten the peace, security or stability of Mali. Subject to the security situation, the Panel is expected to travel extensively in Mali, neighbouring countries, the region and beyond to meet with armed groups, governmental officials, the diplomatic community and international and non-governmental organizations. The Panel is also expected to conduct extensive field work and on-site investigations related to attacks on institutions established by the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, the Malian armed forces, United Nations staff and other international entities with a presence in Mali. The Panel is expected to visit locations in Mali where possible violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, or acts that constitute human rights abuses or violations took place, to conduct interviews and obtain eyewitness accounts and to collect evidence. The Panel is expected to submit to the Council an interim and a final report, which will include findings and recommendations, as well as periodic updates in between on its activities.

7. The objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures of the Panel are set out in the table below.

Table 1
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective of the Organization: To ensure the full implementation of the sanctions measures contained in Security Council resolution 2374 (2017) pertaining to Mali

Expected accomplishment	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures* 2018
(a) Enhanced capacity of the Security Council to take follow-up action on alleged violations	(i) Number of official communications from the Security Council Committee to States and other entities on alleged violations cited by the Panel	Target	5
		Estimate	
		Actual	
	(ii) Number of bilateral meetings between the Chair of the Committee and concerned States and organizations to follow up on the reports of the Panel of Experts	Target	4
		Estimate	
		Actual	

Outputs

- Reports to the Security Council (1)
- Updates to the Committee on the activities of the Panel (3)
- Briefing to the Committee (3)

Expected accomplishment	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures* 2018
(b) Enhanced capacity of the Security Council to adjust the sanctions regime	(i) Number of recommendations made by the Panel agreed upon by the Committee	Target	6
		Estimate	
		Actual	
	(ii) Number of recommendations by the Panel incorporated by the Security Council into subsequent resolutions	Target	1
		Estimate	
		Actual	

Outputs

- Recommendations on adjustments to the sanctions regime (1)
- Recommendations concerning new individuals and entities to be listed (3)

Expected accomplishment	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures* 2018
(c) Improved compliance by States and other entities with the sanctions measures	(i) Number of communications from States and other entities informing on compliance-related issues	Target	13
		Estimate	
		Actual	
	(ii) Number of communications from States and other entities seeking advice on how to comply with the measures	Target	9
		Estimate	
		Actual	

Outputs

- Communications from the Panel to States and other entities requesting information, action or updates relating to compliance with the sanctions measures (36)

External factors

8. The objective would be achieved on the assumption that States comply with the resolution of the Security Council and cooperate with the Panel of Experts, and provided that the investigations of the Panel are not hindered.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 2
Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	1 January 2016-31 December 2017[a]			*Requirements for 1 January-31 December 2018*		*Variance analysis (2017-2018)*	
Category of expenditure	*Appropriation* (1)	*Estimated expenditures* (2)	*Estimated variance* (3)=(2)-(1)	*Total* (4)	*Non-recurrent* (5)	*Approved budget (2017)* (6)	*Increase/ (decrease)* (7)=(4)-(6)
Civilian personnel costs	–	84.3	84.3	341.8	–	–	341.8
Operational costs	–	351.5	351.5	955.4	–	–	955.4
Total (net of staff assessment)	**–**	**435.8**	**435.8**	**1 297.2**	**–**	**–**	**1 297.2**

[a] An amount of $435,800 for the period from 1 October to 31 December 2017 is funded under the authority granted to the Secretary-General under paragraph 1 (a) of General Assembly resolution 70/250 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses.

Table 3
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									*General Service and related categories*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Security Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officer*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2017	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Proposed 2018	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	2	–	1	3	–		–	3
Change	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	2	–	1	3	–	–	–	3

9. It is proposed that the staffing complement to support the Panel of Experts on Mali be composed of three positions: one Senior Political Affairs Officer (P-5), one Political Affairs Officer (P-3) and one Research Assistant (General Service (Other level)). The Senior Political Affairs Officer (P-5) would provide substantive and administrative support to the Sanctions Committee, its Chair and the Panel of Experts and liaise on an ongoing basis with United Nations agencies, Member States and other relevant entities on issues related to the sanctions regime, including on matters related to the safety and security arrangements applicable to the experts. In the light of the increase in recent years in the number of sanctions committees and panels and in the scope of their work, the Security Council Affairs Division no longer has the capacity to absorb the additional workload within existing resources (programme budget posts). The Political Affairs Officer (P-3) would provide substantive advice and support to the Panel of Experts by conducting research; gathering, selecting and analysing information relevant to the work of the Panel; facilitating the drafting of reports and correspondence; coordinating the logistical

and administrative support provided to the experts; and supporting the experts on missions. The Research Assistant (General Service (Other level)) would provide research and administrative support to the Panel.

10. The estimated requirements for 2018 would amount to $1,297,200 (net of staff assessment) to provide for salaries and common staff costs for three positions (1 P-5, 1 P-3 and 1 General Service (Other level)) to provide substantive and administrative support to the Sanctions Committee, its Chair and the experts of the Panel with a 25 per cent vacancy rate applied ($341,800); expert fees ($578,700) and official travel ($230,400) of the five members of the Panel, official travel of staff ($35,900); and other operational and logistical support requirements, such as rental of premises, rental of vehicles, communications, information technology equipment and maintenance, and miscellaneous supplies and services ($110,400).

11. The initial requirements of the Panel of Experts on Mali for the period 1 October to 31 December 2017 are being funded under the authority granted to the Secretary-General under paragraph 1 (a) of General Assembly resolution 70/250 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2016, in the amount of $435,800 for three positions and other operational costs.

Extrabudgetary resources

12. No extrabudgetary resources were available in 2017, nor are any projected for the Panel of Experts on Mali for 2018.